

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing blood flow directly from a heart chamber to a coronary vessel, comprising:

providing a ~~substantially straight~~ stent that includes a configuration having sufficient radial strength to resist deformation from contractile forces experienced during a cardiac cycle and remain patent when implanted in a myocardial site and having sufficient flexibility in a compressed state ~~and a deployed state~~ to permit passage to ~~[[a]]~~ the myocardial site ~~and remain patent when implanted in the site~~, wherein the stent includes ~~a flared end and~~ a covering on an inner surface portion and an outer surface portion of the stent and a coating over the covering on the inner surface portion;

delivering the stent in the compressed state into a passage at the myocardial site; and

expanding the stent to deploy the stent in the passage at the myocardial site ~~such that the flared end seats around an end of the passage.~~

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the covering includes expandable polytetrafluoroethylene.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the covering covers substantially all of an inner surface and an outer surface of the stent.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein the coating includes heparin.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein the coating is hemocompatible and antithrombogenic.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~stent includes a the~~ covering ~~having~~ has expandable polytetrafluoroethylene ~~that covers substantially all of an inner surface and an outer surface of the stent~~ and the ~~stent includes~~ coating is a heparin-based coating ~~over the covering on the inner surface of the stent~~.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 38, wherein the flared end is placed in the passage to face the coronary vessel.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the coronary vessel is a coronary artery.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the heart chamber is a left ventricle.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the myocardial site is distal to a coronary blockage.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the coronary blockage is a partial blockage.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein delivering the stent includes delivering the stent percutaneously.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of providing blood flow directly from a left ventricle to a coronary artery, comprising:

providing a ~~substantially straight~~ stent that includes a configuration having sufficient radial strength to resist deformation from contractile forces experienced during a cardiac cycle and remain patent when implanted in a myocardial site and having sufficient flexibility in a compressed state ~~and a deployed state~~ to permit passage to ~~[[a]]~~ the myocardial site distal to a coronary blockage ~~and remain patent when implanted in the site~~, wherein the stent includes a ~~flared end~~ and a covering having expandable polytetrafluoroethylene that covers substantially all of an inside surface and an outside

surface of the stent, and the stent includes an antithrombogenic coating over the covering on the inside surface of the stent;

delivering the stent percutaneously in the compressed state into a passage at the myocardial site ~~such that the flared end seats around an end of the passage~~; and
expanding the stent to deploy the stent in the passage.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of providing blood flow directly from a heart chamber to a coronary vessel, comprising:

providing a ~~substantially straight~~ stent that ~~includes a flared end and~~ has a configuration having sufficient radial strength to resist deformation from contractile forces experienced during a cardiac cycle and remain patent when implanted in a myocardial site and having sufficient flexibility in a compressed state ~~and a deployed state to permit passage to [[a]] the myocardial site and remain patent when implanted in the site~~;

applying a covering to the stent;

applying a coating over the covering on an inside surface of the stent; and

delivering the stent into a passage at the myocardial site ~~such that the flared end seats around an end of the passage~~.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein delivering the stent includes percutaneously delivering the stent in a compressed state and expanding the stent to deploy the stent in the passage.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the covering includes expandable polytetrafluoroethylene.
20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the covering covers substantially all of the inside surface and an outside surface of the stent.
21. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the coating includes heparin.
22. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the coating is hemocompatible and antithrombogenic.
23. (Cancelled).
24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[17]] 44, wherein the flared end is placed in the passage to face the coronary vessel.
25. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the coronary vessel is a coronary artery.
26. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the heart chamber is a left ventricle.
27. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the myocardial site is distal to a

coronary blockage.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the coronary blockage is a partial blockage.

29. (Currently Amended) A conduit for providing blood flow directly from a heart chamber to a coronary vessel, comprising:

a ~~substantially straight~~ stent that includes ~~a flared end and~~ a configuration having sufficient radial strength to resist deformation from contractile forces experienced during a cardiac cycle and remain patent when implanted in a myocardial site and having sufficient flexibility in a compressed state ~~and a deployed state~~ to permit passage to ~~[[a]]~~ the myocardial site ~~and remain patent when implanted in the site, [[and]]~~

a covering on an inner surface portion and outer surface portion of the stent, and
a coating over the covering on the inner surface portion of the stent.

~~wherein the flared end is configured to seat around an end of a passage at the myocardial site.~~

30. (Previously Presented) The conduit of claim 29, wherein the covering includes expandable PTFE.

31. (Previously Presented) The conduit of claim 29, wherein the covering covers substantially all of an inner surface and an outer surface of the stent.

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Currently Amended) The conduit of claim ~~[[32]]~~ 29, wherein the coating includes heparin.

34. (Currently Amended) The conduit of claim ~~[[32]]~~ 29, wherein the coating is hemocompatible and antithrombogenic.

35. (Currently Amended) The conduit of claim 29, wherein the covering includes expandable polytetrafluoroethylene that covers substantially all of an inner surface and an outer surface of the stent, and the ~~stent includes~~ coating is a heparin-based coating ~~over the covering on the inner surface of the stent.~~

36. (Cancelled).

37. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the stent includes providing a substantially straight stent.

38. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the stent includes providing a stent including a flared end.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein expanding the stent includes expanding the stent to deploy the stent in the passage at the myocardial site such that the flared end seats around an end of the passage.

41. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein providing the stent includes providing a substantially straight stent.

42. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein providing the stent includes providing a stent including a flared end.

43. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein expanding the stent includes expanding the stent to deploy the stent in the passage at the myocardial site such that the flared end seats around an end of the passage.

44. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein providing the stent includes providing a substantially straight stent.

45. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein providing the stent includes providing a stent including a flared end.

46. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein delivering the stent includes delivering the stent into the passage at the myocardial site such that the flared end seats around an end of the passage.

47. (New) The conduit of claim 29, wherein the stent is substantially straight.

48. (New) The conduit of claim 29, wherein the stent includes a flared end